

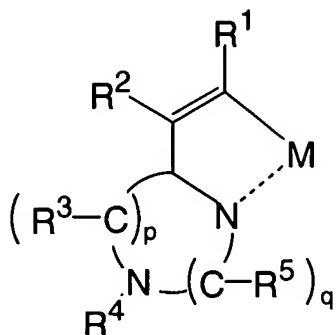
REMARKS

Claims 1-8, as amended, remain herein. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification (see, e.g., page 6, lines 15-17; page 10 (TF, OB, Fu and Fl structures) of the specification; and original claims).

1. Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Office Action stated that the claims are indefinite because they recite a broad limitation and a narrow limitation within the broad range. The provisos, however, are not a narrow limitation within the broad limitation. The provisos recite that when p is 0 and q is 2, the plurality of R^5 do not bond to each other to form a ring structure, and when p is 0, q is 2, and R^1 and R^2 bond to each other to form a ring structure, the ring structure is not substituted with phenyl. Thus, the provisos do not limit $p+q$ to 2 but merely state additional limitations when p is 0, q is 2. These additional limitations do not apply when $p+q$ is 3. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

2. Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Takiguchi et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0100906. The Office Action states that applicants' claims read on Takiguchi formula (1).

Applicants' claim 1 recites a metal complex compound having a partial structure represented by the following general formula (I):



(I)

wherein R¹ and R² bond to each other to form a ring structure selected from the group consisting of benzene, pyridine, naphthalene, benzothiazole, quinoline, thiazole, furan, benzofuran and 9,9-dimethylfluorene.

Takiguchi does not disclose applicants' claimed metal complex compound. In Takiguchi, the groups at the R¹ and R² positions do not form a ring structure (see Takiguchi formula (1) at paragraphs [0034]-[0038] and Takiguchi's exemplified compounds in Table 1 at pages 7-10).

Thus, Takiguchi does not disclose all elements of applicants' claims and therefore is not an adequate basis for a rejection under § 102(b). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

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For the foregoing reasons, all claims 1-8 are now fully in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, he is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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